Proposal for internal monitoring of Indo-Pak border

1265. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal from Pakistan for monitoring of international borders to check infiltration on the grounds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the other proposals from Pakistan; and

(d) the decisions taken by Government on such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d) From time to time, Pakistan has suggested that there should be some form of international or third party monitoring to verify whether cross border infiltration is continuing or not.

The proposal for international monitors is neither practical nor acceptable. Under the Simla Agreement and as reiterated in the Lahore Declaration, both India and Pakistan are committed to resolve all issues bilaterally. There is thus no scope for any third party role. Prime Minister had, during the CICA Summit in Almaty in June 2002, proposed Joint Patrolling along the LoC as acredible bilateral measure to curb cross border infiltration if Pakistan was sincere in its commitment to end cross border infiltration and terrorism.

Proposal by USA for joint group to tackle environmental problems

†1266. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a joint group of four Countries comprising India, Russia, China and America is being formed by USA to tackle the environmental problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.